

# **South Transfer Station**

# Summary of Public Meeting #1 — March 31, 2010





#### **Overview**

The Seattle Public Utility (SPU) hosted a public open house about the new South Transfer Station on March 31, 2010. This was the first meeting since the Mortenson/ URS Design-Build team had been selected. In a design-build process, the team develops and prices a schematic design for the competitive selection process, so this was an opportunity for the public to see the design concept developed by the Design-Build team for the new facility. Over two dozen people attended the meeting, where they talked with the Design-Build team and SPU staff about the site planning, building design and operation and the employment outreach program.

#### **Notification**

Community members were told about the meeting through a multilingual flyer that went to all addresses within South Park plus some Georgetown and White Center zip codes. The notice in English, Spanish and Vietnamese was also posted on the community webpage and distributed to public locations within South Park. The invitation was also sent to a list of both community and business organizations and individuals who have expressed interest in the project.



#### **Exhibits**

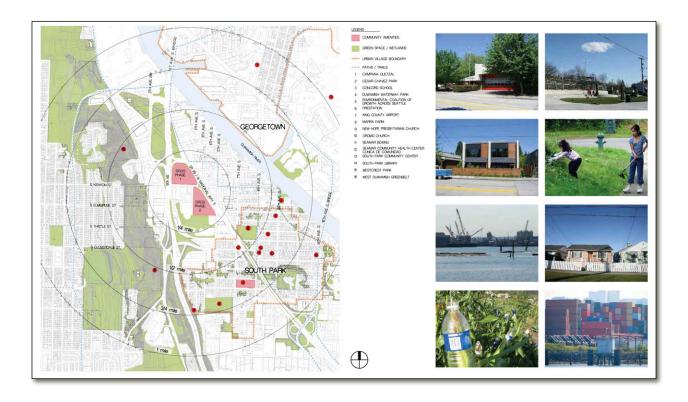
Exhibits described the decision process led by the city to determine the program and location for the new facility at South Park. Information developed by the Design-Build team about the new transfer station included plans, elevations and perspectives of the site and building, along with operational diagrams of vehicle movements through the site and facility. A staffed exhibit about the planned Employment Outreach Program included information about upcoming work fairs and the apprenticeship program. SPU provided information on recycling.

# **Public Comment Responses**

#### General

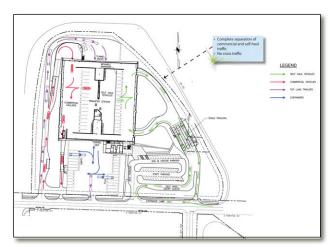
People appreciated the opportunity to see the station design and to understand how it would function. They were generally pleased with the station and layout, though some concerns were raised by an adjacent property owner about potential impacts. Some noted that the lighter attendance may have been because people have been using their available time in activities focused on the bridge closure.

- Interest in confirming that the North Station will be replaced with a new facility and will continue to function. Rumors had surfaced that it was closing for good.
- Concerns about all garbage coming to the new South station while North is being
  rebuilt. SPU noted that both the current South Recycling and Disposal Station and
  the new South Transfer Station would be used simultaneously to deal with the
  extra waste volume while the new North station is being constructed.
- One person had questions about the phasing of the projects; the two sites and how that would coincide with closure of the north transfer station.



### **Operational**

- Attendees were complementary about the on-site traffic circulation and safety features.
- People seemed to understand how the waste-handling would be different on a flat floor vs. the current pits.
- The industrial park neighbor across the street was very concerned about the impacts from dirt, odor, traffic and aesthetics.
- The same neighbor was concerned about garbage truck traffic at the commercial entrance. Staff and consultants noted that truck traffic will be there only momentarily and will not be queuing on Kenyon St.
- One person had questions about drainage in the yard waste area inside the transfer building.





- Attendees liked the separation of commercial and self-haul traffic.
- A former Rabanco representative understood and liked the waste-handling aspects of the tip floor and tunnel.

## Landscape, site and maintenance

- People like the approach to planting and site restoration.
- Interested in the connection to the bike trail to the north which ends at the northeast corner of the site and would like to make sure there are pedestrian crossings at this intersection.
- Want the site to be maintained to make sure that escaped litter does not build up on fences, etc
- Site maintenance is important for the project to be a positive contributor to the community.

#### **Traffic**

 Want the vehicular circulation off site to function well and not be impacted by the project.

### **Building Design**

- The same industrial park neighbor across Kenyon St. was concerned about
  visibility issues with the trailer storage area on the south side of the building
  (directly across from her parcel). She was interested in seeing if the City would
  provide walls in this area to block the view. SPU indicated that others at previous
  public meetings specifically did NOT want screening walls. Also, the City wants
  public facilities visible, not hidden from view.
- The same neighbor wanted to confirm there would be trees along Kenyon adjacent to trailer storage(not just shrubs). Consultant confirmed that per the current landscape plans, there will be trees.
- The same neighbor voiced concerns about dust during construction and voiced concern about odors once facility is operational. SPU staff explained that dust will be controlled during construction and odorous waste will be managed inside the building where odors will be controlled.









# **Next Steps**

The team will continue meeting with the Stakeholder Group of community members and station users through the fall of 2010 about the design and operation of the new facility. Two more public meetings will provide an opportunity for interested community members to offer their advice on the new facility.

#### **SPU South Park Voicemail Lines**

English 206-733-9650 Spanish 206-733-9649 Vietnamese 206-733-9648

# Where can I get more information?

If you want to stay informed about the project, please go to www.seattle.gov/util and search for Facility Update. Information in English, Spanish and Vietnamese will be posted there. You can also contact the project manager, Henry Friedman at 206-733-9147.